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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/851,555 | ZHU ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Man Phan | 2665 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/14/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6, 8-10, 14-17, 21-25, 28-32, 35-40, 43-44 (Claims are renumbered as 1-31 respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
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Reasons for allowance

1. This communication is in response to applicant's 09/14/2005 amendment after the Final in the application of Zhu et al. for a "Method for restoring diversely routed circuits" filed 05/08/2001. The proposed amendment to the claims and response have been entered and made of record. Claims 7, 11-13, 18-20, 26-27, 33-34, 41-42 have been canceled per applicant's request, and claims 1, 16, 23, 30, 37 have been amended. The claims have been amended to better point out and more distinctly claim subject matter comprising the invention.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-10, 14-17, 21-25, 28-32, 35-40, 43-44 are allowable as evident by applicant's amendment (Claims are renumbered as 1-31 respectively)

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sean D. Detweiler (Reg. No. 42,482) on Oct. 18, 2005.

4. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Claims 8, 9, 10: line 1 replace "claim 7" with --claim 1--

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant application is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement over the invention patented in closest prior arts of record. The improvement comprises the step of initiating and sending one or more triggers in at least one of a first direction along the first path, a second direction along the first path, a first direction along the second path and a second direction along the second path; receiving one or more triggers at one of a destination node and a source node of a first path indicating a path failure; determining whether a switch has occurred at one of the source and destination nodes, and calculating according to a predetermined algorithm whether to switch one of the source and destination nodes to a second path; wherein the algorithm calculates that a switch is required and that the switch has not already occurred, switching one of the source and destination nodes from the first path to a functional second path, prompted at least partially by one or more triggers, to restore the circuit, as recited in the claims.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

8 Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Man U. Phan whose telephone number is (571) 272-3149. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 3:30 pm.

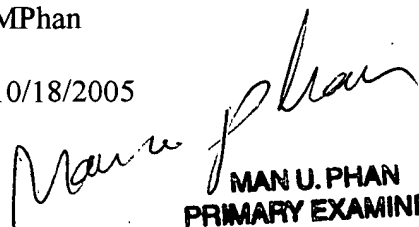
9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu, can be reached on (571) 272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

10. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. should you have any questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at toll free 1-866-217-9197.

MPhan

10/18/2005


MAN U. PHAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER